

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING DATA IN A DISTRIBUTED
BUFFER SYSTEM**

5 A method, apparatus, and computer implemented
instructions for managing a plurality of caches of data,
wherein the data processing system includes a plurality
of independent computers. In response to initiating a
read operation to read data on a data block, an
indication is posted on a directory of data blocks
10 identifying the computer that now holds a copy of that
block and a location in the memory of that computer where
a flag associated with that block is held. Then in
response to initiating a write operation on that data
block, messages are sent to all the computers holding
15 that block which resets the said flag, thus informing
each computer that the data in that block is no longer
valid. These messages are sent using means that perform
that flag reset without, in the preferred embodiment, any
overhead of interruption of processing on the computers
20 where the flags reside.

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